New Accenture Report Warns of Risks of U.S. Becoming a Spectrum Island

Key quotations from Accenture's new report, "Advancing U.S. Wireless Excellence: The Case for Global Spectrum Harmonization."

On the risks to U.S. global influence and wireless leadership from failing to allocate internationally harmonized spectrum: "The United States has a gap in the amount of mid-band spectrum available for commercial wireless use that must be addressed to keep up with rising demand...If the U.S. ignores this...it will leave significant value on the table and will risk limiting its influence and future leadership in the global wireless ecosystem." (Page 1)

On the significant economic benefits from allocating internationally harmonized 5G spectrum: "Spectrum harmonization could lead to economic benefits of \$200B over ten years...These benefits will largely be felt by consumers and businesses in the form of cheaper devices and connectivity, improved service, and transformative new technology and use cases." (Page 2)

On the risks to network performance from the lack of sufficient licensed mid-band spectrum: "The U.S. has a significant and widening gap in this [mid-band] spectrum relative to global counterparts... A lack of mid-band spectrum will result in network capacity issues and reduce service quality for end users..." (Page 16)

On how adopting globally harmonized spectrum is key to avoiding U.S. isolation: "In attempting to address this mid-band gap, the U.S. must look to allocate spectrum that is harmonized to that of its global peers, or risk falling behind as a wireless leader. Furthermore, as other nations increasingly harmonize their spectrum, the U.S. must do the same to avoid becoming siloed in the wireless ecosystem and missing out on the economic benefits from harmonization." (Page 16)

On how spectrum harmonization delivers lower cost services and devices: "Harmonization...[allows] network equipment and wireless device manufacturers to reduce duplication and streamline production... These economies of scale provide consumers and industry with more affordable and higher-quality products and services, as well as faster and more widespread access to improved connectivity and new wireless technology. Efficiencies [from harmonization] will drive broad value throughout the economy through the realization of

transformative 5G use cases, reduction in the digital divide, and more. (Page 20)

On how spectrum harmonization is critical to national security and trusted supply chains: "Taking a leadership position in 5G and beyond... will also ensure that the U.S.' ecosystem of trusted technology vendors can benefit from economies of scale, which, in turn, will bolster U.S. national security in the face of global technological and geo-political threats." (Page 39)



in U.S. Economic Growth Relies on Adopting Globally Harmonized Licensed Mid-Band Spectrum



It is more critical than ever for the U.S. to play an active role in driving harmonization and wireless leadership.



